The Mefrepelitan Excise Law.

The discussion of the Metropolitan Excise law before the Committee on Internal Affairs

on Wednesday and Thursday does not seem

likely to lead to a speedy repeal or even modification of the present law by the New York Legislature. Nevertheless the arguments

which several democratic representatives and

German republican delegates from New York city have presented to the committee in favor of

essential modifications are undeniably strong.
General Sigel, who headed the German depu-

tation from this city, introduced a bill of Mr.

Hodges, of Brooklyn, which, he said, was not

large number of citizens of New York, oppres-

arrests by the police, and denounced as

to become the accuser of its parent. He

asked that liquor stores should be closed only

during certain specified hours on Sunday. He

proposed, not unreasonably, that violations of the law should be punished by fine and

imprisonment like other misdemeanors, and

not by a revocation of the license, and that

the violator should be reported to a magistrate,

and not arrested and imprisoned by a police-

man. Other delegates opposed the law a

unconstitutional; as converting the police and

the Excise Commissioners into a judiciary; as

placing upon a particular trade restrictions

guishing in favor of a class, the rich versus

the poor-in fine, as being at once a despotism

and a failure. It was shown that there is

more liquor sold in New York without than

with a license. The increased Sunday con-

sumption of liquor and Sunday drunkenness

illustrate the old Scriptural statement that

where the law is there doth sin much more

abound." General Sigel earnestly defended

the rights of his countrymen to enjoy the

habits to which they are accustomed, whether

on Sunday or any other day, and Colonel

Murphy was shocked at hearing Rev. Mr.

Taylor call upon God to palsy the arm of any-

body who disagreed with his own Sabbatarian

after declaring that "the Sabbath was an

American right, and no foreigner should be

permitted to bring a European Sabbath here."

He also made the mild declaration that "he

was not only in favor of the law, but if he had his will he would sweep the whole liquor

the Germans persist in going to the opposite

extreme and demanding the removal of all

restrictions upon the Sunday traffic—against which the feeling in the Legislature is still too

strong—"they may," says our Albany cor-

respondent, "spoil all the efforts of the friends

of modification. It will be some time, how-

ever," he adds, "before the bill comes out of

the hands of the committee." Meanwhile

public opinion in favor of rational and just

modification of the Metropolitan Excise law is

More of the Ocean Yacht Race.

The letter of Commodore Douglas to Mr.

Ashbury is admirable in tone and in its

points. In a former letter, it will be remem-

bered, the Commodore challenged the owner of the Cambria, indicating rather than declaring

the kind of race he would like. Mr. Ash-

bury's misapprehension of that letter having

the challenger now says :- "My desire is to

sail over a course entirely outside of the Eng-

lish Channel, such as to the coast of Spain or to the Azores and back." He further says

that if this is not approved he will be content

with a race out and in fifty miles to seaward from the west coast of Ireland. It should be

observed that this last is a proposition for an

out and out ocean race of the first order, as

the Irish coast is the worst in the world to

head from, since the vessel has the westerly

sweep of three thousand miles of the Atlantic

against her. We do not see how Mr. Ashbury

fuse it. He is willing to make a race to test the seagoing qualities of the boats, and he

surely cannot shy a little additional test of the

pluck and capability of the navigators. Hav-

ing so readily accepted the Sappho for a race

in the English Channel can he refuse to try

her in the open sea, when it is the claim of

English yachtmen that their boats alone are fit

for the ocean and ours fit only for rivers?

Commodore Douglas' letter must also cer-

tainly call the attention of English vachtmen

to the evident unfairness of what is designated

"Thames measurement." He presents the

single fact that while by one measurement the

Sappho is made twice as large as the Cambria,

by another the two boats are within a trifle of

the same size. Such a fact as this, if there is

any fair play among English yachtmen, must surely prevent them insisting on their measure-

ment as a standard for international matches.

A BAD EXAMPLE BADLY FOLLOWED,-The

republican Senators in the Legislature appear

to be ant scholars and are not likely to be out-

done by their teachers in Congress in elegance

of diction and purity of lingual expression.

During the discussion in the Albany Senate on

Thursday upon the resolution to recommend

the repeal of the Tenure of Office law Senator

Kennedy used this language :- "When the

tocsin sounds the death knell of the disgraced

administration about to retire it would be time

anough to repeal the law." Senator Parker

also said that President Johnson "would go

forth as Cain went forth from the presence of

his Maker!" That smacks a good deal of the

old impeachment style of language, only on a small scale. Surely this is following a bad

THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PASSED -

It will be seen by the news from Washington

that the Senate has accepted the constitutional

mendment agreed upon by the committee of

conference of the two houses. It is shorn of

the extreme radical features and therefore did

not suit some of the ultra Senators. It is a

harmless amendment, and, in fact, only amounts to a declaration of the right of all

men, of whatever race or color, to the suffrage.

Nothing is said about the right to hold office.

The mountain has been in labor a long time

THE GREAT UNKNOWNS .- McClure tells

General Grant that Stuart is unknown in Penn-

and has now brought forth a mouse.

sylvania. Who knows McClure?

example very badly.

erstand this, nor how he can re-

ade it necessary to write more explicitly,

steadily gaining ground.

interest and trade into the deepest pit."

ons. In replying to General Sigel Rev. Mr. Taylor had made this pious invocation,

ch other trades are free; as distin-

innatural the section which compels a child

Mons of it as were, in the opinion of a

ended to repeal this law, but to ame

sive and immoral. He objected to arb

city have presented to the comm

### NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET. JAMES GORDON BENNETT. PROPRIETOR

All business or news letter and telegraphic despatches must be addressed New York HERALD.

Letters and packages should be properly

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

RIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway .- THE BURLESQUE EX FRENCH THEATRE. Fourteenth street and Sixth av WALLACK'S THEATRE. Broadway and 18th str

BEOUGHAM'S THEATRE, Twenty-fourth at -A GET OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway.-HUMPTY DUMPTY, WITH NEW PEAYURES. Matines at 156. BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery, -- CARPENTER OF ROUEN-

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway .- ANGEL OF MID ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Pourteenth street.-ITALIAN BOOTH'S THEATRE, Twenty-third st., between 6th and WOOD'S MUSEUM AND THEATRE, Thirtieth street and THE TANMANY, Pourteenth street.-THE Young RE-MES. F. B. CONWAY'S PARK THEATRE, Brooklyn.

WAVERLEY THEATRE, 126 Broadway. LUCRETIA BORNIA - A PRETTY PIECE OF BUSINESS. Matineo at 2. THEATRE COMIQUE, 514 Broadway .- Coute SERTCHES SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, 585 Broadway.—ETRIC

BRYANTS' OPERA HOUSE, Tammany Building, 14th TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 Bowery .-- COMIC NEW YORK CIRCUS, Fourteenth street, ... EQUESTRIAN

HOOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn.-Hoot.gr's NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway.

## TRIPLE SHEET

New York, Saturday, February 27, 1869.

Notice to Herald Carriers and News Dealers. HERALD carriers and news dealers are informed that they can now procure the requisite number of copies direct from this office without

All complaints of "short counts" and spoiled sheets must be made to the Superintendent in the counting-room of the HERALD establish-

Newsmen who have received spoiled papers from the HERALD office, are requested to return the same, with proof that they were obtained from here direct, and have their money refunded. Spoiled sheets must not be sold to readers of the HERALD.

## MONTHLY SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The DAILY HERALD will be sent to subscribers for one dollar a month.

The postage being only thirty-five cents quarter, country subscribers by this arrangement can receive the HERALD at the same price it is furnished in the city.

# THE NEWS.

The cable telegrams are dated February 26. It is thought that Marshal Serrano in the formation of his new cabinet will provide for the representation of the republican interests. ation of the republican interests.

The Marquis of Hartington, Postmaster General,

has been elected to a seat in the British He The Turkish government has addressed a circular

of thanks to the great Powers for the attitude they maintained in the late Turko-Greek difficulty.

The volunteer regiments are preparing to take the field against the insurgents. The brig J. D. Lincoln, of Brunswick, Me., has been refused a clearance at Havana because she came from a port declared to be closed. A fight had taken place in the Clenfuego district, in which the Spaniards captured a Mexican general, whom they instantly shot. The insurgents about Santiago have been ordered to destroy all the estates belonging to Spaniards.

Congress.

In the Senate yesterday the resolution to pa Southern senators from the commencement of the Fortieth Congress was called up, and pending cussion upon it the morning hour expired. Mr Kellogg, of Louisiana, said that if the resolution were to pass he would not avait himself of it, as he had been a federal officer up to the time of his elec had been a federal officer up to the time of his elec-tion, and did not desire pay as a senator for the same time. The report of the conference committee on the suffrage amendment came up and was the sub-ject of general debate until the recess. In the even-ing session several pension bills were called up. The debate on agreeing to the conference report on the constitutional amendment was resumed, and the re-port being finally accepted by the requisits majority the President declared the amendment passed. In the House Mr. Garfield presented a report from the Military Committee on the organization and pay

In the House Mr. Garlied presented a report from the Miliary Committee on the organization and pay of the army. It recommends the consolidation of the Quartermaster a, Commissary and Pay Depart-ments, and of the ordanace, artislary, engineer and signal corps, and the abolition of all the overest at present granted and the commutation system of pay-ing officers. The Delicious Appropriation bill was then considered in Commissates of the Whole. Several the appropriations were for desciencies the expenses of the army, and Mr. Chap ler opposed them, stating that the indian was a mere fiction or farce, that there were no was a mere notion or inrec, that there were not troops enough on the plains to constitute a briga-dier general's command, and the fight against Black Kettle was a piece of treachery. Mr. Muthus thereupon made a ferce onslaught upon Mr. Chanler, and for a time considerable confusion prevailed. One item in the bill was for the prevented of a salary to Mr. Harvey, the Min-ister resident at Portugal. Mr. Spaiding moved also to include the salary witcheld from him two years before and the interest on it, and stated that he (Mr. Spaiding) was instrumental in stopping Mr. Harvey's salary two years before and now he wished to confess that he had not acted as a states wished to confess that he had not acted as a states-man. A long and interesting debate ensued and ar. Spalding's amendment was adopted, but the entire paragraph was then stricken out. The committee rose and proceeded to vote on amendments to the Legislative Appropriation till. One withholding Special Commissioner Wells' salary was withdrawn by Mr. Moorhead, who stated that he believed the commissioner wells' that he believed the incoming administration would not goop Wells in the position. Another increase a the pay of certain department clerks ten per cent was agreed to, but on reconsideration was rejected. In the evening session the Harvey matter came up

again and the appropriation in his favor

A number of bills of minor importan ported in the Sfate Senate yesterday. Bills were introduced making appropriations to meet existing deficiencies, incorporating a savings bank and insurance indemnity company in this city, and several surance indemnity company in this city, and several others. The resolution requesting our representatives in Congress to vote for the repeal of the Tenure of Office bill was passed. Mr. Maltoon's resolution, recommending Horace Greeley for Minister to England, was returned to the author, after which the Senate adjourned.

In the Assembly two local pills were passed and several reported. For the consideration of the House, bills were reported fixing the salary of City Judge of bills were reported fixing the salary of City Judge of Brooklyn; relating to purchases of land from aliens, and for the better protection of aliens. The Commit-tee on Federal Relations reported a series of resolu-tions on the subject of the Tenure of Office law, in which President Johnson is severely censured. After considerable discussion Mr. Jacobs moved a division on the first resolution, recommending simply the repeal of the law, which was adopted by 77 to 6. He repeal of the law, which was adopted by 77 to a. He then moved a division of the preamble, which the Speaker decided not divisable. Pending an appeal from the decision, a call of the roll showed that there was not a quorum present. The Speaker announced the names of the members composing the committee to investigate the affairs of the Merchants' Union Express Company. The Assembly then ad-Union Express Company. The Assembly then adjourned until March 8.

General Grant, in a conversation relative to proposed legislation for Georgia, stated that he thought the Georgia delegation ought to be admitted in Congress. He did not approve of the action of the Georgia Legislature in expelling the negro members, but he thought the courts could remedy the matter. General Banks is now understood to be a candi-General Banks is now understood to be a candi-date for the Speakership of the House and has de-veloped considerable strength.

veloped considerable strength.

The report of the committee investigating the alleged bribery relative to the Alaska appropriation is published. A considerable amount of testimony was taken, but the substance of the whole thing seems to indicate that no one was paid anything outseems to indicate that no one was paid anything outside the actual amount of the purchase money, \$7,200,000, \$28,000 of that, however, being given to Robert J. Walker for his services as counsel in helping the appropriation through, and \$3,000 to Mr. D. C. Forney, of the Washington Chronicle, for setting forth the merits of the purchase in his paper.

General Sheridan, since the close of the Indian

war, is bending his energies to weeding out desper-ate and lawless white men from the Indian Territory. ate and lawiess white men from the Indian Territory. In the latter part of January he issued an order sending beyond the limits of the territory Dr. Holmes, Don Carlos and S. T. Wakeier, formerly Indian agents, for inducing Indians to steal cattle. Samuel Pierson is also ordered out of the territory, the General believing him to be an improper person to remain in proximity to the Indians.

The body of Wirz, the Andersonville jailer, was avanuated on Thursday, when it was discovered that

exhumed on Thursday, when it was discovered that it had been partially dissected. The akuli was re-moved and the fiesh sewed up; an arm was also gone. The remains were much decomposed.

The capital of West Virginia is to be located at

Charleston, on the Kanawha river, after April, 1870. Official prociamation has been made in Washi ton of the new naturalization treaty with Mexico. The Metropolitan Police bill for Philadelphia leen defeated in the Pennsylvania State Senate.

Governor Geary denies having telegraphed advicto General Grant relative to his Cabinet. meeted with the recent horror, known as the Coxsackie murder, have been discharged, the Grand Jury having no evidence against them.

soner, is in progress in Worcester, Mass. It is expected that the trial will not be concluded for several days. The City.

The "Griffith Gaunt" case came up before Judge Clerke again yesterday. Charles Reade, the English novelist, sues Charles Sweetzer, formerly editor of the Round Table, for libel in some strictures he passed upon the work, calling it immoral. The de-fence raised the question that Reade was not the author of the work, and after hearing argument on the question the Court reserved its decision.

The alleged drawback fraud case was contin

before Commissioner Jones in Brooklyn yesterday.
The testimony taken was of much interest, the confederate who betrayed the prisoners giving a detailed statement of how the alleged frauds were perpetrated. The case was family adjourned until Tuesday.

Magaido's wounds have nearly healed, and he now talks about his recent attempt at suicide very rationally. He says he committed the deed with a narrow, bladed knife that had been furnished him for his meals and that he was in despair at the mo-

Another railway war has just been instituted the courts, this time between the Atlantic and Great Western and the Eric companies. It is instituted by the Great Western parties to compel Eric to ap-propriate certain moneys to paying mortgages on the Atlantic and Great Western Railroad.

Munroe, will leave pier 20 North river at twelve M. to-day for Giasgow, calling at Londonderry to land

passengers.

The steamship Ariadne, Captain Eldridge, will leave pier 21 East river this afternoon for Gal

The sidewheel steamer Quaker City, Captain Ellis, will sail at three P. M. to-day from pier 36 North river for Havana and New Orleans.

The steamship San Salvador, Captain Nickerson

will leave pier No. 8 North river at three P. M. to-day for Savannah. The steamship George Washington, Captain Gager,

will sail at three P. M. to-day from pier No. 9 North river, for New Orleans.

The Old Dominion line steamship Isaac Bell, Captain Bourne, will leave pier 37 North river at three P. M. to-day for Norfolk, City Point and Richmond. The steamer Piag. Captain Hoffman, for Mobile via Persandina route, will sail from pier 29 North

river at three P. M. to-day. The steamer Empire, Captain Price, will leave pier 15 East river at four P. M. to-day for Washington and Georgetown, D. C., and Alexandria, Va. The stock market yesterday was without important feature, except for the express stocks, which decidined several per count.

clined several per cont. Governments advanced on the receipt of the news that the London price had gone up to 11%. Gold settled to 131%, closing finally

Prominent Arrivals in the City. Captain J. N. Athey, of the United States Army;

General H. Cogshale, of Philadelphia; C. W. Ander-son, of Tonnessee, and General E. F. Bruce, of New York, are at the Metropolitan Hotel. Lieutenant Governor Wm. Bross, of Chicago; C. H. Sherrill, of Washington, and J. M. Hoxie, of Boston, are at the St. Nicholas Hotel. E. T. Tayloe, of Alabama, is at the New York

Judge Sherman, of Washington; Robert Hamilton, of the West Indies; James B. McKenn, of Saratoga; David Lyman, of Connecticut; John B. Alicy, of Massachusetts, and Oscar Reiver, of St. Louis, are at

Dr. Fred. Henry, of New York; Dr. Belt, of Paris, France; W. Kidd, of Rochester, and D. C. Littlejohn of Buffalo, are at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

Dr. Wm. Dawes, of Cambridge, Mass.; W. J. Clark, of Southampton, and Captain Robert Sti-graves, of Madison, Ohio, are at the St. Julien Hotel. Dr. Henry R. Rüter, of Norfolk, Va.; James Foster, James Elliott and Frank Scott, of Pittsburg, are at

Captain B. S. Humphries, of the United States Army, and Alonzo Hastings, of Leavenworth, are at the St. Charles Hotel.

Bonzs.—The Philadelphia Age recomm A. Borie for a place in Grant's Cabinet. No, no! Grant has bores enough already-first class bores, professional bores, treble and base bores and borers perfect Max Bohrers.

A WARNING.—The way to destroy any man's chance for a place in the Cabinet is to go at Grant with his name, as McClure did with

"The man on horseback"-the man—has evidently a plan and a will of his own. As the President of the republican party, and the elected servant of its managing cians in the division of the spoils, he was pretty thoroughly sounded on Thursday last by Colonel A. K. McClure, of Philadelphia, but all in vain. Colonel McClure, it appears. first urged it as a matter of the utmost impor tance that the Cabinet member from Peansylvania should be ex-Governor Curtin, because he had the entire confidence of the party, and was recommended, among others, by Governor Geary, who would be a candidate for re-election next fall; and by Judge Williams, who would be the administration candidate next fall for the place which he holds on the Supreme Bench of the State. General Grant replied, in substance, that Governor Cartin was not his man, and that while he desired the success of the administration candidates in Pennsylvania he did not see why they should appoint his Cabinet. Baffled upon Curtin McClure next appealed against the appointment of any man of the type of George H. Stuart, who belonged to a class that were unknown to the active politicisms, and would give the party no strength if appointed. In hort, any man of that set, in distr patronage of the State, would be the ruin of the party. General Grant answered that he did not see what objection there could be to Mr. Stuart, for instance, who had done so much to sustain the loyal cause during the war. McClure insisted that Stuart, though a worthy gentleman, was not the man in a Cabinet position to vitalize a party. General Grant's answer was, "I am not the representative of a party myself, though a party voted for me.'

This ended the argument. McClure had nothing further to say, except that he had mistaken the standpoint from which to discuss the question of the Cabinet of Grant, and so the matter stands. The head managers of the republican party of Pennsylvania have been informed, through their deputy, by General Grant that the appointment of his Cabinet is a task upon which he intends to exercise his own judgment, which makes him master of the situation. It is the old Jackson policy revived. The amiable Lincoln tried the McClure policy of conciliating his leading party politicians in his Cabinet by making it up nainly from his rivals in the Chicago Nomi ing Convention, from Seward down to Bates. and it was a great mistake. But for the pressure of the war, which enforced a sort of harnony, the clashing Cabinet intrigues, to go no further, of Seward and Chase to supplant each other in the line for the succession would have broken up Lincoln's Cabinet in a month. As it was, those clashing intrigues were too much for Cameron and too much for Chase, and would have been too much even for Seward had he not wisely in season adopted the saving alternative of sinking his own pretensions in the superior claims of the President. This saved him to Lincoln and has kept him with Johnson. It is enough, however, that Lincoln's Cabinet experiment of conciliating the different cliques of his party politicians was a signal failure. and Grant is wise in resolving upon a different

As the main result upon the main topic of his conversation with General Grant the pertinacious Colonel McClure is satisfied that Mr. George H. Stuart is the chosen Pennsylvanian for the new Cabinet. He is represented as a native of Ireland, an original abolitionist, an old line republican, President of the Christian Commission of the war, a prosperous Phila-delphia merchant and a Scotch Presbyterian. With this admirable record Greeley is deighted, and dwells with especial satisfaction apon Stuart's active church services as a Covenanter, and in view of the faithful work of this Church in the thirty years' war against Southern slavery. But the latest rumors from Washington say that McClure is mistaken and that Stuart is not the man. The Pennsylvania oliticians, therefore, of the Curtin-Forney action will have to exercise the virtue of patience for a few days, as our New York Cabinet-makers are trying to do. A batch of them waited upon General Grant shortly after McClure and suggested Judge Pierrepont as a good man for New York. The General replied that he liked him very much, but of course could not say just yet anything more, except that no State, as New York now has, shall have two members of the Cabinet. It seems to be understood, however, that New York will get one, and the New Yorkers, thus comforted, gracefully stepped out.

The office-seekers and office-holders, en masse, cannot be patient ; but the plan resolved upon by General Grant of burning their office-begging letters and of withholding any positive information concerning his Cabinet has made them somewhat cautious. keep at a respectful distance from the new intain of power, but they are busy among the managing politicians. The lesson given to McClure will doubtless have a who effect upon all these self-important politicians. It may derange all their calculations of the distribution of the plunder in this State or that State, but it will do them good. It will operate to reduce the hordes expected in Washington from and after the 4th of March. It is evident that General Grant will make short work of them and their trains of office-beggars. His hint to McClure covers a broader margin than his Cabinet. It means that as Presid Grant will not be like poor Pierce or Buchapan, the slave of a clique of politicians; nor like coln, the head of a wrangling Cabinet; nor like Johnson, victimized by flunkies and unscrupulous office-beggars. It means, too, that the dominant party in Congress are to have in this soldier President something much more like Jackson than Johnson

ANOTHER STOCK BOARD, in the shape of Free Exchange, is proposed by certain sore-heads who cannot gain admission to the present Wall street boards. This move is made, not in the interest of the public-for the boards already in existence are more than sufficient to transact all the legitimate business of the city-but to gratify the stock gambling mania of those who so are excluded.

THE CURTAIN RAISED. -It is stated that the curtain has been partially raised on Grant's Cabinet, so far as Pennsylvania is concerned, but it isn't the kind of Curtin the radicals graph Company to lay a second cable between Key West and Havana failed last year from the drifting too far to the eastward of the steamer Narva while laying it, and the conse quent necessity of dropping some miles from the shore the end that was to have been landed in Cuba. The end was buoyed, but the buoy rope broke one hundred and twenty-five fathoms below the surface, and hence the necessity of grappling for the cable in the same manner that the Great Eastern grappled for the first Atlantic cable. The work to recover the Cuba cable was performed under very different circumstances from that of re-

Recovery of the Second Cuba Cable.

the attempt of the International Ocean Tele-

It will be remembered by our readers that

covering the Atlantic cable. The latter lay at a depth of one thousand nine hundred and eighty fathoms, on a level bottom, under still water; while the Cuba cable was lost at a depth of eight hundred fathoms, on an uneven bottom, and with a vast volume of water driving over it at an average rate of four miles

Preparations for the work were made by placing on the steamer New England, machinery similar to that used for recovering the lost Atlantic cable on board the Great Eastern. Owing to the strength of the current the grap-pling ropes were required to be unusually strong. They consisted of sixteen steel wires each encased in Manila hemp, and laid up in strands of four each. This rope was divided into lengths of two hundred fathoms, with shackles and swivels between each. point where the cable was found was passed over with the grapples six times, and thrice the cable was caught. On the first occasion the cable parted, through some fault in the machinery, and the second time it parted at a splice, a heavy sea running. On the 15th of February it was caught again and successfully raised and landed, and now we have a double cable to Cuba, as we have to Europe. The operations were performed under the personal supervision of Genera William F. Smith, President of the International Telegraph Company, and Sir Charles Bright, engineer-in-chief of the company. This event is another assurance of the practicability of handling ocean cables and laying them, and will conduce to strengthen the science of ocean telegraphy.

### An Impudent Politician

Mr. McClure wants General Grant to appoint to his Cabinet from Pennsylvania some who will keep the republican party in that State together—who will vitalize it, and make it "pulsate." This is the true political argument, and what these words as used by politicians mean can be understood when people understand McClure. McClure some months ago went out to the Indian country and there saw how things could be done in the way of a big job. His eyes were opened—he was excited. He must get that thing in his hands somehow. Curtin is McClure's man. McClure pulls the wires that move Curtin in the eyes of the public just as Thurlow Weed has pulled the wires for many political puppets from this State. McClure's plan, then, was to make Curtin Secretary of the Interior, and through him as such Secretary to get possession of the Indians. This is the whole of It. This is what his con cern for the "republican party" means, and this is the beginning, the middle and the end of all that he had in view in his indecorous as sault on the President elect.

STOCK GAMBLING AND THE CABLE TELE-GRAMS.-On Thursday, when our bonds took a sudden leap of one or two per cent in London, the despatches to the Associated Press were curiously silent. The blame cannot be attributed to the wires or cable this time; for the foreign bankers and private speculators on Wall street knew it, and made use of their knowledge very advantageously, several hours before the information reached the press. As Artemus Ward would inquire, "Why is this to speculate by suppressing the telegrams? The Western Union Company ought to institute an inquiry as to the cause of the delay.

MORE RUMORS FROM WASHINGTON ABOUT THE NEW CABINET.-We have more rumors from Washington about General Grant's Cabinet, but nothing definite; no, not even as to that Pennsylvanian. The politicians are in a great muddle and General Grant quietly smiles. It is not certain as to Mr. Stuart, though the President elect continues to speak very highly of him and expresses great regard for him whenever his name is mentioned. The prevalling impression is that Mr. Stuart is the Pennsylvania man. It is now reported that General Grant has gone a little further and said that New York is to have one Cabinet appointment and also Ohio, Illinois and the uth, and that New England is to have one It is further stated that all the Cabinet appointees will be in Washington by the time of the inauguration. Still these are only rumors. The sphinx at Washington around whom all are buzzing and anxiously watching has not yet spoken plainly. He only smiles,

The Alaska Investigation a Fizzle.

We publish to-day the report of the Com nittee of Congress relative to the bribery investigation concerning the Alaska purchase money. There is nothing new in the report beyond what has appeared from time to tin in the Herald, except the conclusions of the committee, and in these it is stated there is no evidence to show that members of Congress or the press had been bribed. But it is clear from the evidence that some of the Bohemians in Washington did make desperate efforts to get hold of a portion of the Alaska purchase money. The committee exonerates, however the respectable portion of the press and the press generally. The only lobby fund used, as far as was proved, was that paid to Mr. R. J. Walker in the shape of a fee. According to and thirty-five thousand dollars were forwarded, to Baring Brothers for the Russian government, though it is known there was one check drawn for only five millions. The balance of a two million one hundred and sixty-five thousand dollars appears to have been swallowed ns, fees and costs. The comup in commiss ttee complains that it could not get at all tion desired; so that there still reremains a cloud over the Alaska purchase

John Bright made a characteristic speech, and urged, we are told, the importance and necessity of adopting the system of ocean penny postage. There is no public man living now in England whose name is so extensively and honorably associated with reform as John Bright. Since 1832 up until the present time there has been no reform movement in Great Britain to the success of which he has not largely contributed. Mr. Bright is the very man to take up the question of cheap ocean postage. It is one of those improvements which to prove successful requires only the advocacy of such a man. The times are ripe for a change. There is but one argument that can be used against ocean penny postage-that it will not pay. This, however, is an argument that has no solid foundation to rest upon. All the facts are against it. It is a truth which cannot be gainsaid, that in proportion as national and international postage has been cheapened so has it become serviceable and so has it proved remunerative. The ties which now bind Great Britain to the United States are so numerous and so strong that facilities for the communication of thought and feeling, not to speak of more substantial interchanges, for the present cannot be sufficiently multiplied. A two cent postage be-tween this country and Great Britain would be immediately followed by a similar arrangement between this country and Germany. The arrangement would be a gain to all concerned. It would be a special gain to the United States, for which reason we hope, not merely that Mr. Bright will keep up the fire, but that it will be warmly responded to on this side. The thing has but to be started to

John Bright on Ocean Penny Postage

Commerce held the other evening in Londo

At a banquet of the Associated Cha'mbers of

### A New Theatre for Reading The multitude of "readers" who followed in

the wake of Hon. Mrs. Yelverton, Mr. Charles Dickens, Mrs. Kemble, the Countess de la Morlière and Mrs. Scott-Siddons have gradually disappeared. But an altogether new theatre for "readings" was opened yesterday in the Supreme Court, where, in the course of the "Griffith Gaunt" and Round Table libel suit, Charles Reade vs. Charles H. Sweetzef et al., Mr. George Vandenhoff, the well known actor and elocutionist, was invited, on behalf of the plaintiffs, to read "Griffith Gaunt," in order to enable the jurors to determine upon its alleged impurity as a literary work. A novel scene in court was thus presented. Mr. Vandenhoff, who at first seemed to be reading against time at a velocipede rate, became interested himself, as he rapidly turned over page after page, and his interest was commu nicated to the jurors, whose faces, intently fixed upon him and expressing the different emotions excited by the story, reminded the spectators of one of Hogarth's famous pictures. It must have been a relief to the jurors to enjoy so unusual an entertainment as that given by Mr. Vandenhoff-an entertainment which might have been still more interesting had Mr. Charles Reade himself been the reader. As it was, the counsel for the defendants became impatient, and, seeming to be apprehensive that too favorable an impression would be produced by the "reading," abruptly interrupted it by a motion for the exclusion of the book from being offered in evidence, and for judgment on the pleading, upon the assumption that the plaintiff had not proved that he was the author of the book. The question was argued at length, after the jury had been dismissed until Monday, when Judge Clerke will probably decide the questions which were raised yesterday. The case is fully reported in another column.

A RAILROAD WAR of large proportions is threatened between the English bondholders of the Atlantic and Great Western Railway on the one hand and the directors of that road and the Erie Railway on the other. The cause of the dispute is the alleged failure of due and past due, on the mortgages of the Atlantic and Great Western Railway, as agreed to in the lease accepted by the Erie Company.

As several railway kings and an English baronet are among the disputants it promises to be an important piece of litigation.

GRANT JUSTIFIED. - We see by what has just happened in regard to one Cabinet appointment what would have happened in regard to all if Grant had made only as much known in reference to them as he made known of that one. He let it slip in a peculiarly communicative moment that he intended to have a man from Pennsylvania, and see what a rumpus is made about it. What a time we should have had if he had declared his whole programme!

A FIRST RATE NOTICE IN A WESTERN PA-PER.-The Lafayette (Ind.) Courier announces that a patent for making brick is offered for sale in Tippecanoe county, and adds:—"A first rate notice will be found in the telegraphic column-the fall of a church steeple built of that kind of material."

TERRIBLE REPULSE OF THE ENEMY .- The first organized assault of the politicians on Grant was made under McClure and was beaten off very handsomely, and for this victory and what it has shown the defence is immensely stronger even than it was.

RARA AVIS-The Albany legislator who either drinks nor smokes and boards in a nodest parior at the public expense and pays his own carriage hire. Who is he? chairman of the House Committee on Elections says that he is that identical bird.

THE YACHT HENRIETTA SAILS FROM CHARLESTON.

CHARLESTON, Feb. 25, 1869. port, bound to New York. She was in flue trim, and left the harbor in gallant style.

The following paragraph announcing the arrival of the Henrietta at Charleston is from the Daily Courier

the Henrietta at Charleston is from the Daily Courier of that city:—

The heautiful and fast sailing yacht Henrietta, so well known everywhere for her success on the water, arrived here yesterday atternoon. She is last from Key West, and previously from Havana, having left the former port on Saturday hast; but in consequence of having two days of light wind had no chance to show her speed, but atterwards taking a strong breeze from southeast to southwest made the last 250 ron in twenty-four hours. The Henrietta is about 205 tons, carpenter's measurement, and was built at Greenpoint, Long Island, about eight years ago, and has aince had a career that has made her famous. She is the property of Mr. James Gordon Bennett, Jr., of the New York Harald. Her most famous roce was across the Atlantic in Docember, 1866, when she particularly distinguished herself.